

14 September 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Warner

SUBJECT : Assessment of Alien Affairs Function

REFERENCE : Memo to Acting Gen. Cnsl., fr Acting  
D/Security re: Alien Affairs, dtd  
6 Sept 73

1. At your request I discussed the information contained in the referent memorandum with [REDACTED] the Agency's Alien Affairs Officer, in order to get a better understanding of the functions of that Office. STATINTL

2. During the mid-1960's three full-time officers were required to perform our alien affairs functions. Since that time, the effort has been reduced to two full-time officers and, as of June of this year, it has been reduced further to a single full-time officer, who is currently [REDACTED]. For some years, the Alien Affairs Staff was physically located outside Headquarters; however, this August it moved back. As a result, [REDACTED] feels that his services are now more in demand because he is much more accessible by the primary groups that he services (the DDO divisions). He claims the volume of work is now rising to such a level that he is having difficulty keeping current by himself. STATINTL

3. Based on my discussions with [REDACTED] I believe that much of the effort is what might be classed as repetitive in that there is not too much legal interpretation required. For example, on many jobs he instructs the operational division as to what forms are required to be filled out and how to fill them out. He then monitors the processing of the completed forms [REDACTED]. STATINTL  
[REDACTED] Certainly, the facts

of each of the cases he processes are somewhat different, some present procedural challenges in order to accomplish the desired objective, and the immigration and naturalization law is vast; however, there are many situations that can be handled in a manner almost identical to that of a previous case. Because of the security aspects of most of the alien cases, [REDACTED] is required to spend much of his time at the [REDACTED] offices (two to three visits each week--last month he was there on 15 of the 23 work-days). STATINTL STATINTL

4. While the manpower considerations are certainly factors that must be considered in terms of this Office assuming the alien affairs functions, I think that the factor of our objectivity must also be examined. Certainly, if we have an interest in these day-to-day functions our legal objectivity and credibility will be subject to question irrespective of the fact of whether it actually is or is not less objective. As an alternative to the alien affairs functions being completely assumed by this Office, I suggest we consider the practicality of continuing with a full-time Alien Affairs Officer--ignoring for the moment what organization he is assigned to--with this Office reviewing those non-routine legal interpretations that he from time to time prepares. STATINTL

[REDACTED]  
Office of General Counsel

OGC:JED:cap

Original - OGC Subject -- ALIENS

1 - JED Signer

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